

### **REMARKS**

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated November 14, 2008 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claim 2 is hereby amended. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 6-10 are currently pending, of which claims 8-10 are withdrawn from consideration. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to claim 2 for minor informalities. Applicants have amended claim 2 to correct the informalities. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 6, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/005891 to Ko et al. (*Ko*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,313,185 to Lau et al. (*Lau*). Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 6, and 7.

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim elements must be taught or suggested by the prior art. The combined teaching of *Ko* and *Lau* fails to teach or suggest all the elements of claims 1-3, 6, and 7, and thus, cannot render these claims obvious.

Amended claim 1 recites, “a thermally decomposable organic silane compound represented by the following Chemical Formula 1 ...  $R^1_p R^{2_{3-p}} Si-L-Si R^{3_q} R^{4_{3-q}}$  [Chemical Formula 1] wherein... L is polyalkyleneoxide.” *Ko* fails to teach or suggest at least this feature of claim 1. In fact, the Office Action admits that “*Ko* fails to teach that the decomposable organic group may be a polyalkyleneoxide.” *Office Action*, page 4. *Lau* does not cure the deficiency of *Ko*. *Lau* discloses a thermolabile group L and L may be polypropyleneoxide. *Lau*, column 6, lines 19-32. *Lau* further discloses that “the thermolabile portion is attached to a polybenzil polymer with a difluoroaromatic portion in the polymeric chain, and comprises an ethylene glycol-poly(caprolactone).” *Id*, emphasis added. Claim 1 requires that Group L attached to Silicon atoms of a silane compound. *See*, Chemical Formula 1 of claim 1. Therefore, *Lau* also fails to teach or suggest the above-recited feature of claim 1.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over the combined teaching of *Ko* and *Lau*. Claims 2, 3, 6, and 7 variously depend from claim 1, and thus, are also patentable over *Ko* for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 1-3, 6, and 7.

The application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

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